

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4:12

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EDITORIAL

"BE YE THANKFUL"

October 11th is our National Thanksgiving Day.

Thanksgiving is a special occasion set apart when individuals separately, and our nation as a whole, give thanks to God for all His benefits. And great is the number of our blessings! When we attempt to count them, we soon find ourselves saying with the Psalmist: "How precious also are Thy thoughts unto me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand."

A little girl said to her father one night as they were walking home: "Daddy, I'm going to count the stars." "Very well," he said, "go on." Soon he heard her counting: "Three hundred and seventy-four, three hundred and seventy-five—oh, I had no idea there were so many!" Most surely, if we stop to think of the many things we have to be thankful for, we can only repeat the little girl's exclamation: "I had no idea there were so many!"

There is no sin more despicable than the sin of ingratitude. It being then, that we are so well favored, the least we can do is return to God for our heart-felt thanks. How often we ask and receive, but fail to come back to God with our thanks. It seems that many a prayer is composed entirely of petitions, with scarce mention made of God's mercies. The Psalmist says again: "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." Paul likewise exhorts his readers: "In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." But Paul not only tells others, he sets a good example himself in giving thanks. "Thanks be unto God which always causeth us to triumph in Christ . . . Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ . . . Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift." Our thank you's should at least equal the number of our requests.

This year the Y. P. Association has a fine chance to make its thanksgiving practical. Thanksgiving implies the idea of a positive offering to God. David says: "I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving." A mere verbal "thank you" means very little. What God wants along with it, is a willingness to give back something that is a sacrifice, since the truly grateful heart will not be satisfied to give only that which costs nothing. We have been asked to observe Thanksgiving Sunday as Home Mission Sunday, and in what better way could we offer our "sacrifice of thanksgiving" than by contributing towards the fund which will help establish a holiness work in Halifax? Many of our young people who are working could give larger amounts, but the contribution of at least one dollar from each member of the Association would make a commendable sum towards the Halifax Church Fund. When we recall the spirit of our young people in pledging to the Self Denial Fund at Beulah, we feel that in this worthy cause also, we shall have their full support.

"God . . . giveth to all men liberally." Shall we not return to God our humble thanks? "Give and it shall be given unto you; good

measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over."

NOTE.—The following poem was written by a young man a few days before leaving to enter the R. C. A. F., September, 1943. The poem is dedicated to his parents.

AN AIRMAN'S PRAYER

Almighty God, I kneel tonight,
In contrite mood, before Thy throne;
To ask Thy presence through this flight.
Lord, make me feel I'm not alone.

Be near me, for the night is dark,
And I am far from those I love;
While I with others now embark,
To rain destruction from above.

Such dreadful thoughts we cannot hide.
We fly to kill—O God, forgive;
And yet our hearts hold naught save pride,
If we may serve—that they may live.

Lord, shelter us beneath Thy wing;
Protect us 'till this strife shall cease,
That we may live, Thy praise to sing,
When joy-bells herald the news of peace.

And if we die?—'tis not in vain,
For if we've kept the faith with Thee,
Some day our souls shall rise again
Triumphant, Thy rewards to see.

And those at home—Protect them, Lord,
From all the horrors of this war;
Comfort and strength to them afford,
Be near them, and their faith restore.

Help them to realize that they
Are kept in sacred memory;
Their trust in us we'll ne'er betray—
We'll fight for them while need shall be.

Then some day—Lord, may it be soon,
A wondrous peace shall reign again,
And hearts with Thee may be in tune—
'Till then we'll trust in Thee.—Amen.

A. EDISON STAIRS,
Meductic, N. B.

GLEANINGS

The fact that God has commanded us to do a thing proves that we can do it.—Guthrie.

Life fellowship with Jesus is the only school for the science of heavenly things.—Andrew Murray.

The man who stands by Christ will find Christ standing by him.—Talmage.

The things that belong to men must be understood in order to be loved; the things that belong to God must be loved in order to be understood.—Pascal.

The gentleness of Christ is the comliest ornament that a Christian can wear.—Arnot.

Attachment to Christ is the only secret of detachment from the world.—A. J. Gordon.

It is said that at the coronation of the boy King of England, Edward VI., three swords were brought, and laid before him as emblems of his power. "Bring another," said he, "I need most of all the sword of the Spirit." The Bible was brought and has retained its place in subsequent coronations.—G. Campbell Morgan.

DID YOU KNOW THAT—

1. John Wesley was converted while listening to the reading of Martin Luther's preface to the Book of Romans?

2. John Wesley was once a missionary to the Indians in America?

3. John Wesley travelled over 250,000 miles, preached at least 52,000 times, read several hundred books, and never weighed more than 122 pounds.

CAN YOU ANSWER THESE?

1. What man was called the friend of God?

2. What man was known as the father of all who handle the harp and organ?

3. What two men were taken to heaven without dying?

4. Who was known as the mighty hunter before the Lord?

5. What is the common name of the famous young man and prophet, Belteshazzar?

6. What two men were known as the sons of thunder?

Answers next issue.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS LAST ISSUE

1. Shimei. 2 Sam. 16:5-6.

2. Beniah. 2 Sam. 23:20.

3. Asahel. 2 Sam. 2:18.

4. Jabez. 1 Chron. 4:9.

5. Jehu. 2 Kings 9:20.

6. Haman. Esther 7:10.

"We are not storerooms, but channels;

We are not cisterns, but springs,

Passing our benefits onward,

Fitting our blessings with wings;

Letting the water flow onward

To spread o'er the desert forlorn;

Sharing our bread with our brothers,

Our comfort with those who mourn."

WHAT IS A HOME?

Some years ago a London magazine sent out 1,000 inquiries on the question: "What is Home?" Out of 800 replies received, seven gems were selected, as follows:

1. Home—a world of strife shut out; a world of love shut in.

2. Home—the place where the small are great and the great are small.

3. Home—the father's kingdom, the mother's world, and the child's paradise.

4. Home—the place where we grumble the most and are treated the best.

5. Home—the center of our affections round which our hearts' best wishes twine.

6. Home—the place where our stomachs get three square meals daily, and our hearts a thousand.

7. Home—the only place on earth where the faults and failings of humanity are hidden under the sweet mantle of charity.—The Covenanter Witness.

Fletcher of Madeley said to Samuel Bradburn: "If you should live to preach the gospel forty years, and be the instrument of saving only one soul, it will be worth all your labors."